

respective electronic module and is electrically conductively connected to each respective electronic module via line connections (41) mounted on the component board (3).

REMARKS

Claims 11-25 are now in the application.

The above amendments have been made to remove the reason for the examiner's rejection of claims 22-24 under 35 USC 112.

Further, claim 25 has been added as an alternative to claim 11. These two claims, 11 and 25, are similar, the difference being that claim 25 more clearly recites that the operating devices are not disposed on the circuit board.

With regard to the examiner's rejection under 35 USC 102 the following is noted.

Arai et al. do not teach all of the claimed structure. For example, in claim 11 it is recited that the operating devices, which are controlled by the control circuits and are connected to the control circuits by the connector parts, are disposed outside the control unit. This is in contradistinction to the structure of Arai et al. where the operating devices are part of the control unit, i.e., they are mounted on the circuit board. For example, at column 6, lines 52-29 Arai et al. recites that the assembly 40 connects the general purpose region (11, column 2 line 16) to the programable region (21, column 2 lines 17-18). Thus, all of

the components in Arai et al. are mounted on the circuit board which is in contradistinction to the claimed structure recited in claim 11.

At column 1, lines 6-12, Arai et al describe how the object of their invention is to connect electrical parts which are mounted on the same circuit board. Column 2, lines 1-25 of Arai et al., the summary of their invention, reinforces this object. Thus, Arai et al. certainly cannot be read to meet the limitation of "controlling a respective operating device disposed outside the control unit" as found in claim 11.

Further, Arai et al. clearly do not teach anything that can be considered to meet the limitations of claims 14-16, which recite that "without an interposition of electrical or electronic components electrically connect at least one contact element (50) of a connector part (20) to another contact element (50) of the same connector part, or to a contact element (50) of a different connector part (21)". There simply is no teaching within Arai et al. which can in any way be said to be a connection between the individual contact elements of one or more connectors.

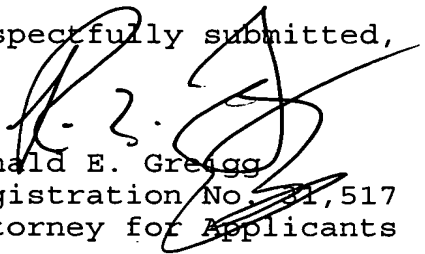
Likewise, Arai et al. clearly do not have any structure which can in any way be said to teach the recitation in claims 22-24 of "the component board (3) is mounted onto a surface of a housing part (2) of the control unit with the assembly side

(14) of the component board mounted facing away from said surfaces of the housing part."

Moreover, the structure of this application is directed to "An electronic control unit." This structure also cannot be found in the reference to Arai et al. Arai et al. do not teach an electronic unit as applicants do.

For the above reasons, entry of this amendment and allowance of the claims is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,


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